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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): S. NAKAGAWA

Serial No. : Not yet assigned

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For : MICROSCOPIC IMAGE

CAPTURE APPARATUS
AND MICROSCOPIC
IMAGE CAPTURING

METHOD

Art Unit : Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

It is respectfully requested that the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A be considered and made of record. A copy of the Japanese documents (with English Abstracts) are submitted herewith.

Japanese No. 9-281405 is identified on page 2 of the present specification.

Japanese Nos. 11-249021, 11-212988 and 2001-274973 are identified on page 3 of the present specification.

The U.S. patent publication identified on said form PTO/SB/08A is not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications for U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. See the USPTO Notice dated July 11, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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Barbara Villani

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper.to Account

No. 06-1378.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box  $\rightarrow$ PTO/SB/08A (08-00) U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Application Number Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO Herewith Filing Date INFORMATION DISCLOSURE NAKAGAWA First Named Inventor STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit Examiner Name 03533/LH 1 Attorney Docket Number οf Sheet U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Relevant Kind Name of Patentee or Publication Date Cite No¹ Exam. Inits\* Portion Code<sup>2</sup> Applicant MM-DD-YYYY Document Number 08-08-2000 Α Bacus et al 6,101,265 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Name of Patentee or Publication Relevant Kind Exam Inits Cite Portion Date MM-DD-YYYY Document Number4 Code<sup>5</sup> Applicant Offc3 х\* 09-10-1993 Α WATANABE ET AL 5-232385 JP X\* Α NAGATA ET AL 01-14-1994 6-3600 JP х\* 10-31-1997 Α YAMADA JP 9-281405 **X**\* 08-06-1999 Α HIDAKA ET AL JP 11-211988 X\* 09-17-1999 A YAMAGUCHI ET AL JP 11-249021 10-20-2000 Х\* NAKAGAWA JP Α 2000-295462 х\* 10-05-2001 CHIBA ET AL A JP 2001-274973 \*English abstract

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date

Considered

DATE MAILED: September 3, 2003

Examiner

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attached.

Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.